

TeleMiracle in Saskatchewan

Lesson Plan Outline/Ideas For the Elementary Classroom

CURRICULAR LINKS: TeleMiracle (referred to as “TM” in the following document) resources can be used for a variety of outcomes in Social Studies, ELA (Comprehend and Respond, Compose and Create), and Math, Grades 1-6.

Social Studies (Grades 2, 3, 4):

DR2.1 (Dynamic Relations 2.1): Investigate stories of significant events and person in the local community's history to describe the contribution of those who lived in the community in earlier times.

RW2.1 (Resources and Wealth 2.1): Describe ways in which the local community meets needs and wants of its members.

RW 3.1 (Resources and Wealth): Appraise the ways in which the local community meets needs and wants of its members.

IN4.3 (Interaction and Interdependence): Determine the influence Saskatchewan people and programs have had on a national scale.

RW6.1 (Resources and Wealth): Examine and analyze factors that contribute to quality of life, including material and non-material factors.

English Language Arts (in all grades, 1-6, but here are examples found in the Grade 2, 3, and 4 curriculum):

CR2.1: Comprehend and Respond to a variety of grade-level texts (including contemporary and traditional visual, oral, written, and multimedia) that address identity, community, and social responsibility.

CC2.1: Compose and Create a range of visual, multimedia, oral, and written texts that explore identity, community, and social responsibility.

CR4.2: View and Respond to visual and multimedia texts (including graphs, charts, diagrams, maps, multimedia DVD, websites, television programs, advertisements, posters), explaining the creator's technique and impact on viewers.

CC4.1: Compose and Create a range of visual, multimedia, oral, and written texts that explore identity, community, and social responsibility.

Math (all grade 1-6, Number, Statistics, Outcomes)

OBJECTIVES:

Students will learn:

- What is TM? (a major Saskatchewan fundraiser) and the historical implications of such
- What is a service club and how service clubs can help communities?
- What the money raised each year is used for (Who does it go to? How is the money distributed?)
- How can they get involved (as individuals or as a class)?

MATERIALS:

TM website (www.telemiracle.com)

TM YouTube channel

OUTLINE:

- **Intro TM** as SK's largest and long-running fundraiser. It airs every year, usually on the first full weekend of March.
- **Historical Info** TM has raised over \$140 million since its inception in 1977. There are two parts to TM: The Kinsmen Foundation, which is the charity that manages the money, and TeleMiracle, the 20-hour telethon.
- **Who started TM?** The Kinsmen and Kinettes of Saskatchewan established the Kinsmen Foundation in 1971 and granted funds raised by local clubs. When requests for assistance exceeded available funds, planning started in 1976 for a province-wide telethon as a major fundraiser and the first TeleMiracle was started in Saskatoon in February 1977. Since then Kinsmen, Kinettes, and Production crews come from all over the province each year, to put on the telethon. The Producers and Kinsmen Foundation office staff also play a significant role in ensuring the broadcast's success.
- **Why was TM started?** KIN Canada (Kinsmen and Kinettes) is a service club that serves the community's greatest need. KIN groups in SK saw a need, that there were people in our province who could not buy the medical equipment they needed, or they could not afford to travel to another city for medical treatment. The need continues to increase year after year.
- **Where does the money go?** All funds raised stay in SK! The money goes to help SK residents with their medical needs. For example, it might help a family stay in another city for a few months while their child receives a new heart, or it might provide meals and accommodations for a person to travel to Saskatoon to receive cancer treatments. Money also provides necessary medical equipment such as walkers, scooters, wheelchairs, and so much more.
- **Who decides how the money is spent?** There is a Kinsmen Foundation Board of Directors that meets 9 times per year. They review applications and decide where the donations to TeleMiracle should be gifted.
- **How can I perform on TM?** Auditions are held in October/November each year (one in Saskatoon and one in Regina) to select acts to be a part of the Saskatchewan Talent line up. Interested singers, dancers and entertainers are encouraged to apply to audition. Applications are usually accepted from early September to mid-October. Applicants can be chosen to perform on the mainstage during the 20-hour broadcast or they can be chosen to perform on the "Countdown to TeleMiracle" show (a 2-hour pre-show held prior to the main event and only streamed online).
- **What other ways can I be involved?** If you don't want to perform on the show, there are other ways to be involved such as, Fundraising, On-Air Presentations, Video Contest,

Colouring Contest, and Tote Boards.

- **How can I raise money?** The website has many ideas to inspire you.
- **What is a “Helping Hand”?**
- **The National Cast:** Every year, the Producers choose professional entertainers to be part of the National Cast. They perform songs but their main role is to host during the live telethon.
- **Who is TeleMiracle Teddy?** TM Teddy is the mascot of the show, and he travels around Saskatchewan in the weeks leading up to the show, visiting communities and helping people raise money in their towns and cities.

ACTIVITIES:

- Audition for the show, video contest, colouring contest, On-Air Presentation, Tote Boards, fundraising ideas.
- Watch videos and clips of TM (discussion, writing activities, etc.). TeleMiracle has a YouTube channel with hours of content available to watch.
- Research different types of medical equipment. What is it used for? How much does it cost? How do people apply to TM to get the equipment they need?
- Look at the money raised. What year did TM raise the most money? What did they raise in the first year? Why do you think they raise more money in some years and less in others?
- Make a plan to do a fundraiser. What resources are necessary? How much money would you like to raise? How do you want to go about it?
- Discuss how TM meets the needs of people in the community. What happens if people have no money to provide medical needs for themselves? Has TM helped someone in your community?
- Create a poster or brochure about TM.

EVALUATION:

- Depending on the curricular outcome, evaluation is teacher derived.